

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEVLR - 7-31-80
NRHP-10-30-80

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RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Perry Hill

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

State Route 56, north of North River

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Saint Joy

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
Fifth (W. C. Daniel)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

Buckingham

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

X BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

X PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

X OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

X YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Alexander Stuart Hall

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 6249

CITY, TOWN

Newport News

STATE

Zip code

Virginia

23606

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Buckingham County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Buckingham

STATE

Zip code

Virginia

23921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS⁽²⁾ (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE

1957

X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Perry Hill, a Gothic Revival-style cottage, is located off State Route 56 in Buckingham County approximately five miles west of Buckingham Court House. The two-story brick structure was built ca. 1851-52 by Colonel Thomas Moseley Bondurant.

Erected on a brick foundation, the house is executed in a combination of Flemish and stretcher bonds. The front (south) elevation has a pointed-arch entry that retains its original paneled double doors. The main entrance and two flanking windows are sheltered by a shed-roofed, covered screen porch. Portions of the porch, such as the sawn posts, may be original; however, the screens give the porch a crude, 20th-century character. The rear (north) entrance has been enclosed by a shed-roofed, weatherboarded porch added in the present century. Fenestration consists of paired, eight-paned sliding-sash windows on the first story and paired, six-paned sliding-sash windows on the second story.

Pointed-arch windows with hood molds are found on the second story of the main (south) elevation. A bay window on the west elevation was removed in the early 1970s and replaced by the present multi-paned window. The house is covered by a hipped roof, broken on the south elevation by the gables. The roof line is further broken by two chimneys with multiple round pots of brick.

Perry Hill retains its central-passage plan. The hall is divided by a louvred screen that separates the passage into an entry and stair hall. The open-well stair has a turned newel, turned balusters and a molded handrail. The door and window frames in the hall and throughout the principal rooms have symmetrical molded trim with turned corner blocks. The front door surround is arched to conform with the pointed arch found on the exterior. The house retains its original two-paneled doors throughout as well as interior shutters. The mantels are simple and consist of pilasters supporting a Tudor arch with a finished shelf. Cupboards on either side of the fireplace in the dining room were added at a later date. The walls are plastered, and the floors are of pine.

The house has maintained its rural setting amidst the rolling farmlands of Buckingham County. While no early gardens survive, the site immediately around the house preserves a number of old trees and shrubs that enhance the open-space country setting. The tomb of John Perkins, an early owner of the property, stands a few hundred yards from the dwelling. The tomb consists of uncut rubble in a rectangular pile with a rounded top. A headstone serves to identify the grave. No original outbuildings survive.

RCC

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property of approximately 42 acres is defined in part by the 500' contour line. The 42 acres includes the house and Perkins tomb on the property and is a fraction of the original Bondurant holding of 560½ acres. The use of the word "hill" in describing the property suggests the importance attached to the elevated site on which the house was built. The nominated property encompasses the "hill" site.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1851-2 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Perry Hill is a rare example of Gothic Revival cottage architecture designed for use as a country residence in Piedmont Virginia. Such building types were promulgated widely in the mid-19th century by the writings of Alexander Jackson Downing and Calvert Vaux, however the few surviving examples in the Commonwealth indicate a limited acceptance in the region. This is due in part to the popularity of the Classical-Revival styles that continued to dominate architectural taste to the Civil War. Colonel Thomas Moseley Bondurant, a prominent Whig politician and publicist in Buckingham County, built the house for his daughter and son-in-law ca. 1851-52 and is believed to have named it in honor of Oliver Hazard Perry, naval hero of the War of 1812.

Families associated with this particular tract of land include some of the earliest settlers of Buckingham County. The Perkins, Moseleys, Bondurants, Guerrants, Blakeys and Halls all assembled substantial landholdings in the area west of the Slate River, which were enlarged, divided and inherited through the intermarriage of succeeding generations. Many very prosperous plantations developed from those alliances before the Civil War, but Perry Hill is among the few to survive with integrity.

In August 1747 William Perkins received two patents. One was for 400 acres, the other for 387 on the Slate River in Albemarle County. These tracts became part of Buckingham County when it was formed in 1761. After Perkins' death, ca. 1800, the 387-acre tract, reduced to 350 acres, was transferred to his son John. This is the same John Perkins whose tomb, dated 1803, stands a few hundred yards from the dwelling at Perry Hill. In 1819 the tract was inherited by Arthur Moseley, one of the many sons of Robert Moseley, the progenitor of this family in Buckingham. Arthur Moseley had married a Perkins daughter. In 1823 a daughter from this union married Moseley's nephew, Thomas Moseley Bondurant, to whom Arthur bequeathed Perry Hill in 1829.

Thomas Moseley Bondurant served as a very young man in the War of 1812. A year after his marriage to his cousin, he acquired a 1000-acre plantation, "Variety Shades." The plantation prospered, as did Bondurant's career. He represented the county in the General Assembly, served as a trustee of Hampden-Sydney College, and became a proprietor of the Weekly Whig in 1846. Bondurant relinquished his share in the newspaper in 1852 after completing the Perry Hill residence for his daughter, Angelina, and son-in-law, William P. Hall, a young country physician. Still active in politics on the eve of the Civil War, Colonel Bondurant was chairman of the meeting at the Buckingham County Courthouse which offered a resolution urging an Ordinance of Secession in 1861.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Buckingham County Land Tax Books 1782-1863.

Personal Property Tax Books 1782-1783, 1810-1815, 1827-1830, 1842, 1851, 1959, 1961.

Maloney, Eugene A. A History of Buckingham County. Waynesboro, VA, 1976.

"Old Homes of Buckingham County." Farmville Herald, 1935.

"Perry Hill Estate Remains a Family Tradition, Legacy." Farmville Herald, 1 September 1972.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 42 acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Saint Joy, Virginia

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 11 7 7 0 9 2 6 0 4 1 6 0 0 9 0

B 11 7 7 0 9 2 8 0 4 1 5 9 6 5 0

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 1 7 7 0 8 8 7 0 4 1 5 9 5 2 0

D 1 7 7 0 8 8 6 0 4 1 5 9 8 0 0

E 1 7 7 0 8 9 0 0 4 1 6 0 0 7 0

F

G

H

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION Beginning at a point approximately 100' N of private drive, 2300' S of State Route 56, 1700' W of intersection of said route and said drive; thence extending 1200' S crossing said drive to 500' contour line; thence following said contour approximately 3000'; thence extending 400' N; thence extending 1200' due E, crossing said contour to point of origin.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

June 1980

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

221 Governor Street

(804) 786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Richmond

Virginia 23219

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE X

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Tucker Hill, Executive Director
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE JUL 31 1980

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

Perry Hill , Buckingham County, Virginia

CONTINUATION SHEET

#1

ITEM NUMBER 6 , 8 PAGE 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1968, 1979 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed of brick, Perry Hill is distinguished by a Gothic facade that consists of a pointed-arch entry and windows and pointed gables embellished by fancy verge boards. The design may have been determined by Dr. Hall, a physician whose position in the community demanded a residence in a fashionable architectural style. While spacious, the house does retain a conventional center-hall plan with fairly restrained woodwork.

In 1863 the property appears in the county land tax book in trust to William P. Hall , "812 acres Perry Hill", "From estate of T.M. Bondurant," apparently who died the year before. At Hall's death, ca. 1900, his son Alexander Stuart Hall inherited the house and part of the Perry Hill tract. Today it is owned by a great grandson, Alexander Stuart Hall of Newport News. The builder of the house has not been determined.

VDS/RCC

USGS 7.5' quadrangle
Saint Joy, VA

Scale 1:24000
1968

PERRY HILL, Buckingham County, VA

UTM References:

A-17/709260/4160090

B-17/709280/4159650

C-17/708870/4159520

D-17/708860/4159800

E-17/708900/4160070

